

I CLAIM:

1. A process for profiling an organization having members comprising:

presenting to members a user interface to a database that contains a plurality of processes of the organization and, for each process, a plurality of selectable characterizations of the process;

receiving selections from members through the user interface of one or more of the characterizations of one or more of the processes, including selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members;

storing the selections of the characterizations made by the members, including the selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members, along with an identification of the members that made the selections;

comparing the selections made by the members, including the selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members; and

generating a presentation concerning the selections made by the members, including the selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members.

2. The process of Claim 1 wherein the presentation includes an identification of an inconsistency in the characterizations of the same process by at least two members.

3. The process of Claim 1 further including:

receiving selections from members through the user interface of one or more of the processes, including selections of one or more of the same processes by at least two members;

storing the selections of the processes entered by the members, including the selections of one or more of the same processes by at least two members, along with an identification of the members that made the selections.

4. The process of Claim 3 wherein at least some of the processes are job functions in the organization.

5. The process of Claim 4 further including:

receiving from a member a date when the member began or ended a job function; and

storing the date received.

6. The process of Claim 4 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function are systems that are used with the job function.

7. The process of Claim 4 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function are organizations that are involved with the job function.

8. The process of Claim 4 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function are products or services associated with the function.

9. The process of Claim 4 further including receiving from a member a time frame for performing a job function and storing the received time frame.

10. The process of Claim 4 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function are one or more processes that precede the job function.

11. The process of Claim 4 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function are inputs to or outputs from the job function.

12. The process of Claim 11 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function include an identification of what is delivered in connection with an input to or output from the job function.

13. The process of Claim 12 wherein what at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function include a description of how an item is delivered in connection with an input to or an output from the job function.

14. The process of Claim 11 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function include an identification of what action the member takes in connection with an input to or an output from the job function.

15. The process of Claim 11 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function include the importance of an input to or an output from the job function.

16. The process of Claim 11 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function include an identification of what action the member takes in connection with an input to or an output from the job function.

17. The process of Claim 11 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function include an identification of a time frame for receiving the input to or output from the job function.

18. The process of Claim 11 wherein at least some of the selectable characterizations of a job function include a trigger for an input to or output from the job function.

19. The process of Claim 1 wherein the user interface prompts the member to make a selection.

20. The process of Claim 19 wherein the prompt includes a question.

21. The process of Claim 19 wherein the user interface includes a first area for the member to make a selection in response to the prompt.

22. The process of Claim 21 wherein the first area includes a drop-down box.

23. The process of Claim 21 wherein:

the first areas only allows the member to make a single selection;

the user interface includes a second area for the member to make selections; and

wherein the second areas allows the member to make multiple selections.

24. The process of Claim 21 wherein the user interface presents a series of prompts and includes an overview area that visually illustrates the location of the current prompt in the series of prompts.

25. The process of Claim 24 wherein the member alters the sequence of prompts by selecting an item in the overview area other than the current prompt.

26. The process of Claim 1 wherein the user interface is presented to different members on different computers.

27. The process of Claim 1 wherein at least some of the characterizations are arranged in a hierarchical format from general to specific and where members select characterizations by navigating through the hierarchical format from general to specific.

28. The process of Claim 1 wherein only a single characterization may be selected for a single process.

29. The process of Claim 1 wherein a plurality of characterizations may be selected for a single process.

30. A process for profiling an organization having members comprising:

presenting a user interface to members to a database that contains a plurality of processes of the organization and, for each process, a plurality of selectable characterizations of the process;

receiving selections from members through the user interface of one or more of the characterizations of one or more of the processes, including selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members; and

storing the selections of the characterizations made by the members, including the selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members, along with an identification of the members that made the selections.

31. A system for profiling an organization having members comprising a database management system, an associated database, and at least one member station configured to:

present to members a user interface to a database that contains a plurality of processes of the organization and, for each process, a plurality of selectable characterizations of the process;

receive selections from members through the user interface of one or more of the characterizations of one or more of the processes, including selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members;

store the selections of the characterizations made by the members, including the selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members, along with an identification of the members that made the selections;

compare the selections made by the members, including the selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members; and

generate a presentation concerning the selections made by the members, including the selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members.

32. A system for profiling an organization having members comprising a database management system, an associated database, and at least one member station configured to:

present to members a user interface to a database that contains a plurality of processes of the organization and, for each process, a plurality of selectable characterizations of the process;

receive selections from members through the user interface of one or more of the characterizations of one or more of the processes, including selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members; and

store the selections of the characterizations made by the members, including the selections of one or more characterizations of the same process by at least two members, along with an identification of the members that made the selections.

33. A database structure containing a set of processes in an organization and a set of characterizations of each process that members of that organization may select to describe the processes that they perform for the organization.

34. The database structure of Claim 33 wherein the processes include job functions.

35. The database structure of Claim 34 wherein the characterizations include inputs to or outputs from the job functions.

36. The database structure of Claim 35 wherein the characterizations include triggers for the inputs to or outputs from job functions.

37. A database structure containing an identification of members of an organization and, for each member, a set of processes with which the member is involved and, as to at least some of the processes, characterizations of the processes by the members.

38. The database structure of Claim 37 wherein the processes include job functions.

39. The database structure of Claim 38 wherein the characterizations include inputs to or outputs from the job functions.

40. The database structure of Claim 39 wherein the characterizations include triggers for the inputs to or outputs from job functions.

41. A process for profiling the infrastructure of an organization having members comprising:

presenting to members a user interface to a selection database that contains a plurality of processes of the organization and, for each process, a plurality of selectable characterizations of the process;

receiving selections from members through the user interface of one or more of the processes;

receiving selections from members through the user interface of one or more of the characterizations of the processes that they selected;

storing the selections of the processes and characterizations entered by the members, along with an identification of the members that made the selections.

comparing the stored selections made by the members with a comparison database containing a model of processes of the organization and, for each process, characterizations of the process; and

generating a presentation based on the comparing.

42. The process of Claim 41 wherein the presentation includes an identification of an inconsistency between the stored selections and the model.